

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated November 25, 2003. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the patent application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111.

Upon entry of the foregoing Amendment new claims 1 - 6 (previously claims 3, 18 and 25 - 28) are pending in the application. The amendments are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections.

Summary of Amendment

Applicants have rewritten claims 25 - 28 as claims 1 - 4, and dependent claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form as claim 5, including all of the elements of claims 3 and claim 1. Claim 18 has been rewritten as independent claim 6 and includes all of the limitations of claims 18 and claim 16. All of said claims the Examiner indicated would be allowable.



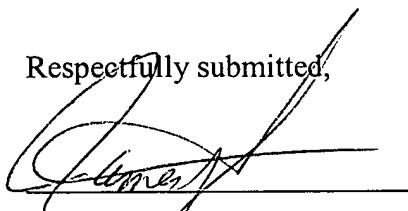
Conclusion

From the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the stated grounds of rejections have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request such action.

If the Examiner believes, for any reasons, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the following number: 202-607-4607.

The USPTO is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 502697 any fees associated with this response.

Respectfully submitted,


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